



SPEED LEAGUE

WELLINGTON TRACK CYCLING ANNUAL REPORT 2020

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2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- Promising attendance figures: difficult first half of the season with significant uptick after Christmas
- Resurfacing work almost completed (will be finished in Spring)
- Excellent fun Keirin Wars event, plus the first grass track race meet in ... a long time.
- New coaches refreshing and adding to our very accessible weekly training offering - we do great things for Wellington cyclists
- Third successful year of weekly women's only training sessions
- More medals for Wellington riders at Age Group National Championships
- 39 youngsters raced the Wellington Junior Track Championships, a record!
- More good media coverage and social media presence



30.1

Average weekly attendance at Speed League events, down on 2019, however attendance in the second half of the season picked up significantly

80%

Male

55%

Seniors

61

different riders raced Speed League at least once

20%

Female

45%

Juniors

11

Events throughout the season: 8 Speed League rounds, plus standalone events: the Junior Wellington Track Champs, Keirin Wars and Grass Track Champs.

39

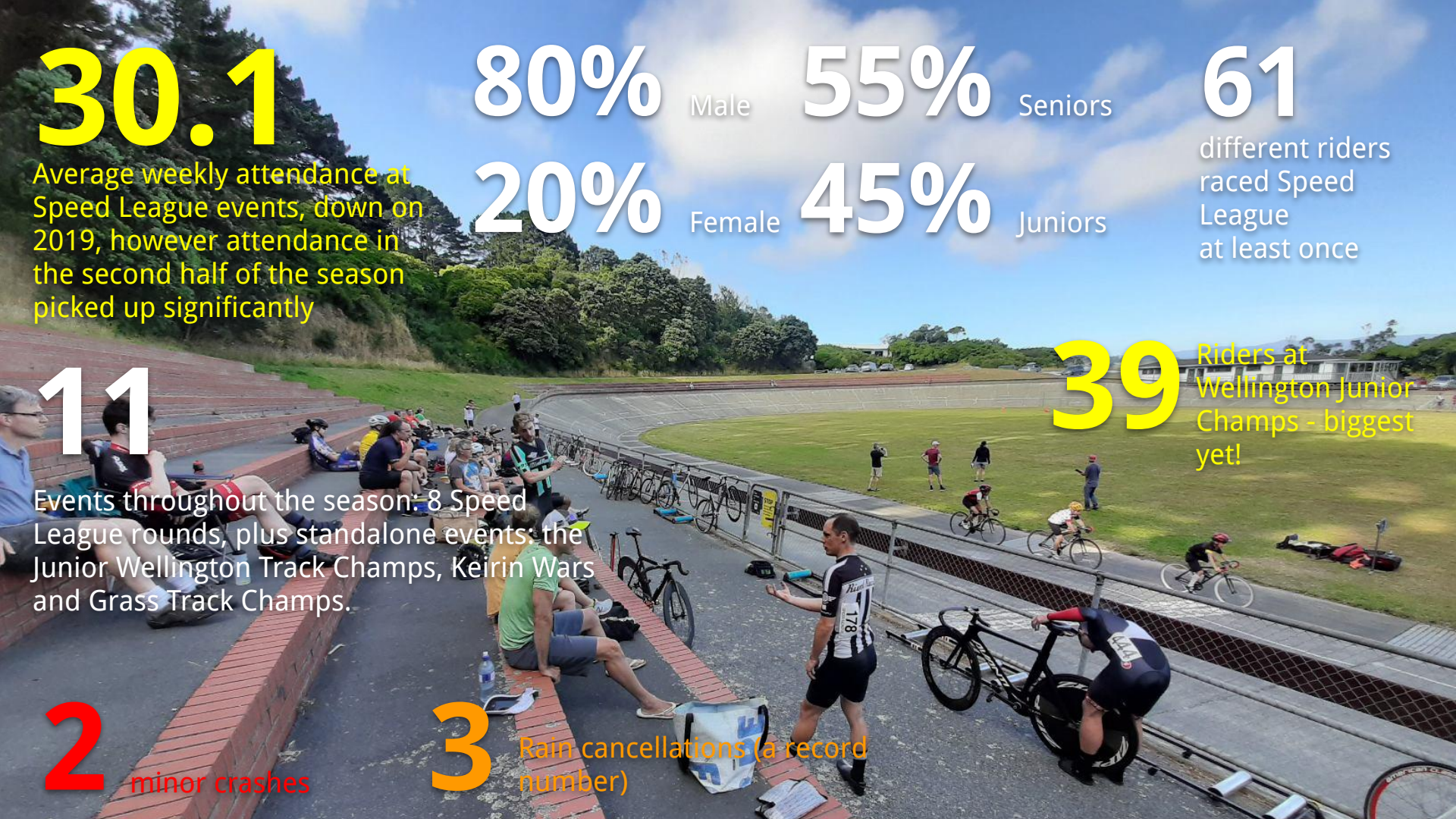
Riders at Wellington Junior Champs - biggest yet!

2

minor crashes

3

Rain cancellations (a record number)



SPEED LEAGUE'S BACKERS

Burkes Cycles - title sponsors for eight seasons



Zeal Commercial Interiors - Sprint Ace sponsors, have backed Speed League for six seasons



Craigs Investment Partners - overall under 19 boy's and girl's, and Wellington Junior Championship sponsor for second season



Tineli - new sponsor for 2019-20 providing limited edition winners' jerseys

In the background...A volunteer crew of over 20 help make our season run, from officiating races, coaching riders to organising and supporting the riders travelling to national championships.



RACING SUMMARY

High quality of racing at Burkes Cycles Speed League with very evenly matched grades and some very hotly contested categories.

The under 13 D grade had fields of up to 12 on some weeks. We ran a very successful Keirin Wars event in December and the first grass track meeting for decades.

The Craig's Investments Partners Wellington Junior Championships in February drew 39 riders, and we also ran a Wellington Omnium Championships later in February, the first based on ability grading rather than traditional age groups.

The Wellington Sprint Squad ran a standalone Sprint competition sponsored by Zeal Commercial Interiors sponsored which ran on Wednesday evenings with a focus on development and skills.

Unfortunately the resurfacing work meant Laykold Cup was postponed until November, but we did run a fun grass meeting instead.



RESULTS

Burkes Cycles Speed League Winners

Men (presented by Coffee Supreme): Pat Crowe-Rishworth

Women (presented by Coffee Supreme): Ele Pepperell

Under 19 boys (presented by Craig's Investment Partners: Stanley Riddle

Under 17 girls: Zoe Perry

Under 17 boys: James de Hair

Under 15 girls: Millie Donald

Under 15 boys: Alex Foden

Under 13 girls: Summer Whitta

Under 13 boys: Leo Kennedy

Under 11 girls: Eva Kennedy

Under 11 boys: Angus Warren

Zeal Commercial Interiors Sprint Ace

Wellington's Next Top Sprinter: James de Hair

Teams' Prize

Lone Rangers



Most Improved Rider

Senior: Ryan Bogardus

Junior: Jasmine Sewell

Laykold Cup Carnival

Postponed due to resurfacing works

Craig's Investment Partners Wellington Junior Championships (omnium)

Under 11 girls: Eva Kennedy

Under 11 boys: Angus Warren

Under 13 girls: Gypsy Tyrell

Under 13 boys: Austin Tunncliffe

Under 15 girls: Kyla Gunn

Under 15 boys: Harrison Craw

Under 17 girls: Georgie Simpson

Under 17 boys: Riley Tunncliffe

Under 19 girls: Ashleigh Gunn

Under 19 boys: Ewan Cousins

Wellington Omnium Championships

C Grade: Gary Gibson

B Grade: James de Hair

A Grade: Nick Warren

TRACK USE AND TRAINING

- The track was used six days a week over summer for training and racing by different groups, including juniors, a women's only session and the Wellington Sprint Squad.
- New training structure with new coaches for older and advanced juniors
- Separate Sprint Ace series sponsored by Zeal Commercial Interiors with an average of 10 riders per week taking part.
- Track was also booked over winter once a week for the third year running.
- Average weekly usage steady on 121 unique visits by riders and volunteers.
- Season cut short five weeks early due to track resurfacing work beginning at the end of February. Three weeks of racing plus plenty of training sessions lost to rain - the most ever!

100.4

unique visits per week
by riders to the
Wellington Velodrome
between October 2019
and end of February
2020.

21

unique visits per week
by volunteers to the
Wellington Velodrome
between October 2019
and end of February
2020.

1980

unique visits by riders
during the 2019-20 season
(19 weeks)

2395

unique visits by riders and
volunteers during the
2019-20 season (19 weeks)

JUNIORS

- Six different training sessions per week on offer for novice kids up to experienced national championship team members.
- Thirty-nine riders (up by five on last year and highest ever turnout) took part in the Wellington Junior Track Championships which was held as omniums for under 11s, 13s, 15s, 17s and 19s
- Regular core of 10 under 13s at Speed League racing.
- Open days held in October 2019 for 12 Tawa school kids all of whom were new to track cycling, and in December for five EBIS kids.
- Fine performances by a largely inexperienced Wellington team at the Age Group National Track Cycling Championships.



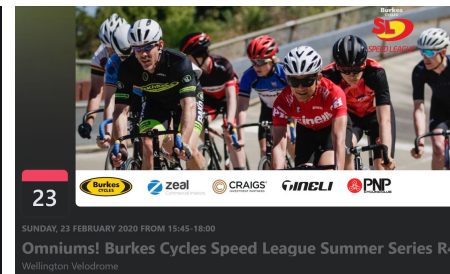
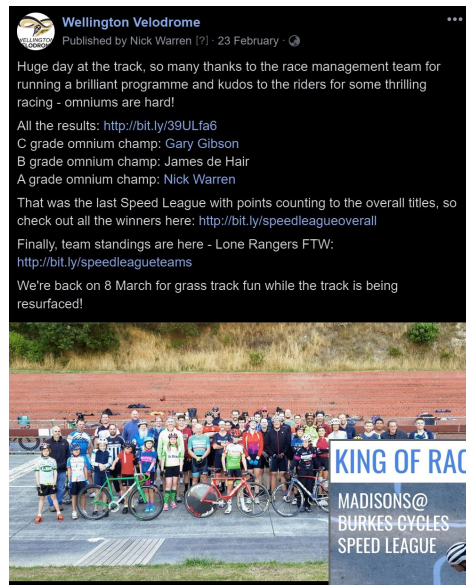
PROMOTION AND SOCIAL

Increased Instagram presence with 50 posts during the season making use of stories and tagging. 173 followers.

Facebook promotions with two paid posts achieving a combined reach of over 4500 people across the wider Wellington region. 950 followers (up 7% on 2019).

Average four posts per week during season, with full race reports posted as Notes on Facebook. Total accumulated reach during season across 148 posts: 59,282 (up 6% on 2019).

Weekly newsletter sent to 250 track cyclists, and content added to main PNP newsletter which goes out to 2000 contacts.



MEDIA

Documented media clippings from pre season press release, garnering coverage in roadcycling.co.nz, sportzhub.com and Scoop.

Great online and print coverage in February of the velodrome's resurfacing project nearing completion.

Due to postponement of Laykold Cup and the season finishing early to allow resurfacing work, we distributed two fewer press releases than usual.

THE DOMINION POST

Revamp of Wellington's velodrome nears completion

Kate Green • 05:00, Feb 06 2020



Independent Herald

Scoop

INDEPENDENT NEWS

SPORTZHUB

ADVENTURE SPORT

Voxy.co.nz

ROAD CYCLING.co.nz

NEW ZEALANDS ONLINE CYCLING MAGAZINE

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Smaller teams travelled National Championships this year, but they still managed to bring back six medals including bronze in the Team Sprint at the Elite Championships.

Renita Van Der Helm won four medals (two silver, two bronze) in the women's masters grade at the Age Group Nationals in Invercargill.

Our juniors showed promise in the younger age categories with a number of top ten performances.

Speed League and our training programme remains the backbone for these achievements.



RESURFACING

The project is almost complete!

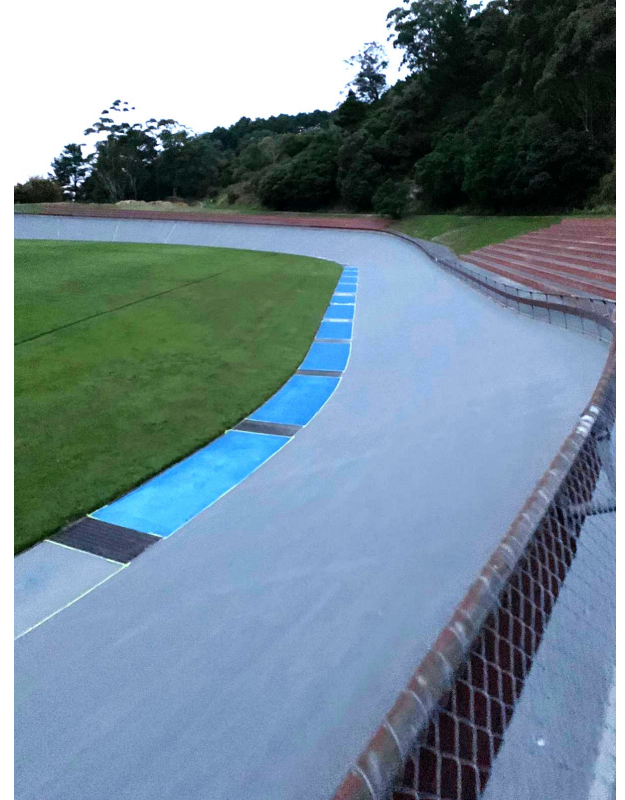
Fundraising was completed in December 2019 and contractors booked in to start work in February 2020.

Unfortunately lockdown in late March due to the Covid-19 outbreak delayed works. Contractors Kiwicourts resumed work in May however the shorter daylight hours and colder temperatures meant the acrylic latex coating cannot bond properly. Work has been paused until Spring and there is only 4-5 days to complete.

WSP Engineers kindly lent us a special bike which measured the track bumpiness before and after the new surface was applied, showing a significant improvement in its smoothness.

More information here:

<https://sites.google.com/view/wellington-velodrome/resurfacing-project>



RESURFACING



THE FUTURE

Racing will return in November 2020 with the Laykold Cup and a new racing calendar - details are being worked out now

Finish resurfacing the track

Build on our training coaching structure

Drive to make track cycling and Speed League more relevant to school kids with school open days

Continued focus on increasing participation and developing riders for national championship teams



THANKS!

Your support for track
racing in Wellington
has been amazing -
thank you!

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